(b) if so, when a final decision is likely to be taken in this regard; and

(c) the names of the foreign companies which are likely to set up their electronic industries there?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA): (a) There is no such proposal under consideration of the Government of India.

(b) and (c). Does not arise.

Electronic Free Trade Zones in States

2232. SHRI GOVINDRAO NIKAM: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government are allowing the State Government to set up electronic free trade zones;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the private sector is also being involved under this scheme; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINSTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA): (a) to (d). There is a proposal under the consideration of the Government to permit State Governments and private sector to put up the infrastructure for duty free electronic technology parks with the regulatory functions alone being looked after by the Government of India. Details of the proposal are still being worked out.

Electronic Policy

2233. SHRI GOVINDRAO NIKAM: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government propose to formulate any Electronic policy on the line of the recently framed new industrial policy;

(b) whether the licensing system is proposed to be completely abolished under the policy; and

(c) the time by which such a policy is likely to be announced?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINSTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Proposal for Electronic Valley near Aurangabad, Maharashtra

2234. SHRI GOVINDRAO NIKAM: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received any proposal for the setting up of an "Electronic Valley" near Aurangabad in Maharashtra;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Commonwealth Science Society of London has also agreed to establish a CAD/CAM centre in the region; and

(d) if so, the time by which this scheme is likely to be finalised and completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINSTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA): (a) No such proposal has been received by the Government of India.

(b) Does not arise.